

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action

All of the pending claims (1-24) were rejected as being unpatentable over Alpdemir et al. (US Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0035474) in view of Bauer, et al. (US Pat. No. 6,026,151).

Statement of Substance of Interview

A telephone interview was conducted in connection with the above-identified patent application on August 10, 2005. The substance of that interview is as follows:

A. **Brief Description of the Nature of Any Exhibit Shown or Any Demonstration Conducted:**

None.

B. **Identification of the Claims Discussed:**

Claims 1, 7, 13 and 19.

C. **Identification of the Specific Prior Art Discussed:**

Alpdemir and Bauer.

D. **Identification of the Principal Proposed Amendments of a Substantive Nature Discussed:**

Proposed amendments to claim 13 would clarify that the nature of the auction to determine the lowest cost resource provider. Also, it was proposed that the auction limitation of claim 13 could be incorporated into the other independent claims. It was also proposed that claim 1 could be amended to clarify the querying step as it relates to the database.

E. **Brief Identification of the General Thrust of the Principal Arguments Presented to the Examiner:**

Neither Alpdemir nor Bauer includes the limitation of compiling a database of resource providers and their associated information where the associated information includes one or more keywords that are indicative of the resource provider, an indication of whether the resource provider accepts voice, video or text communications via public switched telephone network, an indication of whether the resource provider accepts voice, video or text communications via a

data network, and an indication of whether the resource provider is immediately available to communicate with a patron. Also, neither of the references teaches indexing each of the resource provider's database entries using at least one keyword. Further, neither of the references teaches an auction to determine the lowest cost resource provider.

F. General Indication of any other Pertinent Matters Discussed:

None.

G. General Results or Outcome of the Interview:

The Examiner will consider an RCE and an accompanying Amendment as discussed and conduct a further search if necessary.

Claim Amendments

In view of the topics discussed in the telephone interview, claims 1-12 and 18-24 have been cancelled, claim 13 has been amended, and new claims 25-37 have been added. The cited references do not teach or suggest the claimed method and system.

Claims 13-17 and 25-37 Are Patentable

As indicated previously, the present application relates to a data processing system that assists a patron in contacting a resource provider that might be capable of providing a resource, such as information, goods, realty, services, etc. The claimed embodiments not only assist the patron in identifying the resource provider, but they also initiate a telecommunication session between the patron and the resource provider so that they may communicate and provide the patron with the resource sought. The telecommunication session may be a voice, video or text session via the PSTN or a data network. The present invention includes a database of resource providers, which includes keywords associated with particular resource providers, as well as the type of communication sessions accepted by the resource provider as well as its availability to communicate with the patron.

Thus, claim 13, as amended, includes the limitation of compiling a database of resource providers and their associated information. The associated information includes one or more keywords that are indicative of the resource provider, an indication of whether the resource provider accepts voice, video or text communications via public switched telephone network, an indication of whether the resource provider

accepts voice, video or text communications via a data network, and an indication of whether the resource provider is immediately available to communicate with a patron. Also, each of the resource provider's database entries is indexed by at least one keyword. This claim also includes the limitations of receiving contact information and preferences from a patron, receiving a request from the patron to find a resource provider to provide a resource, conducting, via a data network, an auction to identify the lowest cost resource provider willing to provide the resource sought, and initiating a telecommunication session between the patron and the lowest cost provider. The auction comprises a traditional bid/ask auction, a dutch auction, or a reverse auction involving at least two resource providers from the database that are willing to provide the resource to the patron.

On the other hand, the primary reference of record, Alpdemir, relates generally to various systems and methods for providing automated speech-recognition driven query and response with business or event self-promotion features relative to businesses and events over ordinary wired or wireless telephone systems, PC systems, Personal Data Assistants (PDAs), and other communication and information appliances and devices. Alpdemir differs from the present invention in several ways. Alpdemir focuses on how information is transmitted between a user and an Information Center, but fails to disclose what data is stored in the database or how the data is organized or indexed.

Thus, in regard to claim 13, as amended, Alpdemir, among other things, fails to disclose compiling a database that includes keywords for each of the resource providers as well as how each resource provider may be contacted, nor does Alpdemir disclose indexing the database entries for the resource providers based upon the keywords. Further, Alpdemir fails to teach using an auction to determine the lowest cost resource provider. Likewise, Bauer fails to teach these claimed limitations. Accordingly, claim 13 and claims 14-17 and 25-28, which depend therefrom, are not anticipated by Alpdemir.

Likewise, new claims 29-37 are also patentably distinguishable over the art of record.

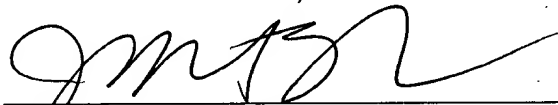
CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons detailed above, it is respectfully submitted all claims remaining in the application (Claims 13-17 and 25-37) are now in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to telephone the undersigned, at (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

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